4448

LIVERPOOL

DEUS NOBIS HÆC OTIA FECIT

PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY
ANNUAL REPORT
1970

PROFESSOR ANDREW B. SEMPLE, C.B.E., V.R.D., M.D., D.P.H.,
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,
CITY AND PORT OF LIVERPOOL.

With the
Compliments of

Professor ANDREW B. SEMPLE,
C.B.E., V.R.D., M.D., D.P.H.

Health Department,
Hatton Garden,
Liverpool L3 2AW

Tel.051-227 3911

PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

OF

LIVERPOOL

REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1970

BY THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

This is the 98th Annual Report upon the work of the Liverpool Port Health Authority.

The Permanent Constitution of the Liverpool Port Health Authority defines the limits of the Port for health purposes, as coincident with the limits laid down by H.M. Customs. The boundaries of the Port of Liverpool are laid down in "The Appointment of the Port of Liverpool Order 1956".

SECTION I STAFF

INCENTIVE BONUS SCHEME

Manual workers on the Port Health Staff consisted of one foreman, nine rodent operatives and two domestic cleaners. This staff provided an adequate level of service, overtime being worked only in exceptional circumstances.

In accordance with recommendations of the Work Study Unit the foreman was regraded and appointed Rodent Control Inspector. The rodent operative staff was reduced by one operator and the domestic cleaning staff was also reduced by one cleaner.

Work specifications detailing methods of operation together with standard times for work being performed were drawn up and the scheme was brought into operation 13th July, 1970. Pay rates, overtime rates and other payments were not affected by the introduction of the scheme, and bonus payments were paid weekly in addition to normal earnings.

Apart from the reduction in staff there has been no alteration in the daily work of the rodent operators. Each operative records the work that he has completed each day on the work claim, which is examined and signed by the Rodent Control Inspector. A group incentive scheme was considered the most suitable and output is entered on to a bonus calculation card by the Work Study Unit Staff. The bonus earned by each operative is notified each week on the bonus card.

After a trial period, the scheme was accepted by the Authority and Trade Unions concerned.

TABLE A

Name of Officer	Nature of Appointment	Date of Appoint-ment	Qualifications	Any other Appointments held
Professor Andrew B. Semple	Medical Officer of Health	5.12.52	C.B.E., V.R.D., M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.	Medical Officer of Health, City of Liverpool. Professor of Public Health, University of Liverpool. Supervising Medical Inspector under the Aliens Order and the Commonwealth Immigrants Act.
Dr. R. S. E. Cutcliffe	Acting Deputy Medical Officer of Health in absence of Medical Officer of Health	1.12.69	M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.	Acting Deputy Medical Officer of Health, City of Liverpool in absence of Medical Officer of Health. Principal Medical Officer (Epidemiology) City of Liverpool. Medical Inspector under the Aliens Order and Commonwealth Immigrants Act.
Dr. R. R. Hair	Principal Medical Officer	1.5.69	L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., (Edinburgh) L.R.F.P.S., (Glasgow)	Medical Inspector under the Aliens Order and Commonwealth Immigrants Act
Dr. J. K. Howard	Boarding Medical Officer (Part-time)	1.6.69	M.B., Ch.B., B.D.	Principal Medical Officer City of Liverpool. Medical Inspector under the Aliens Order and Commonwealth Immigrants Act.
Dr. S. G. Rubin	Boarding Medical Officer (Part-time)	27.7.70	M.B., B.S., D.P.H.	Medical Officer in Department, City of Liverpool. Medical Inspector under the Aliens Order and Commonwealth Immigrants Act

Mr. J. G. McCoy	Chief Port Health Inspector	7.6.46	Certificate of R.S.I. and Sanitary Inspectors Examination Joint Board. Liverpool Universtiy School of Hygiene Sanitary Science Certificate. Liverpool University School of Hygiene Meat and other Foods Certificate. B.O.T. 1st Mate's Certificate (Foreign-going)	
Mr. G. R. Davies	Deputy Chief Port Health Inspector	2.7.70	Certificate of the Public Health Inspectors Education Board. Diploma of the R.S.H. for Inspection of Meat and other Foods Certificate. M.O.T. Certificate as Master (Foreign-going)	
Mr. C. Kitchen	Port Health Inspector	29.6.33	Liverpool University School of Hygiene Sanitary Science Certificate. Liverpool University School of Hygiene Meat and other Foods Certificate. National Federation of Meat Traders Diploma. R.S.I. Food Hygiene Certificate.	
Mr. H. Rodgers	Port Health Inspector	18.11.35	Certificate of R.S.I. and Sanitary Inspectors Examination Joint Board. Liverpool University School of Hygiene Meat and other Foods Certificate.	
Mr. W. McGeough	Port Health Inspector	8.7.55	Diploma Scottish Meat Traders Association. R.S.I. Sanitary Association of Scotland Certificate	

TABLE A—Continued

Name of Officer	Nature of Appointment	Date of Appointment	Qualifications	Any other Appointments held
Mr. D. W. Thomas	Port Health Inspector	7.2.56	Certificate of the Public Health Inspectors Education Board. M.O.T. 1st Mates Certificate (Foreign-going). Liverpool University School of Hygiene Sanitary Science Certificate.	
Mr. E. Calvert	Port Health Inspector	1.8.66	Certificate of the Public Health Inspectors Education Board. University of Liverpool School of Hygiene Sanitary Science Certificate. University of Liverpool School of Hygiene Meat and other Foods Certificate. M.O.T. Certificate as Master (Foreign-going).	
Mr. B. F. P. McCann	Port Health Inspector	1.8.66	Diploma of the Public Health Inspectors Education Board. Liverpool University School of Hygiene Sanitary Science Certificate. Liverpool University School of Hygiene Meat and other Foods Certificate.	
Mr. R. E. Wilcoxson	Port Health Inspector	1.8.66	Certificate of the Public Health Inspectors Education Board. Diploma of the R.S.H. for Inspectors of Meat and other Foods.	

Mr. B. D. Jones	Port Health Inspector	1.8.66	M.O.T. Certificate as Master (Foreign-going). Diploma Public Health Inspectors Education Board.	
Mr. H. P. Bird	Port Health Inspector	1.7.68	Certificate of the Public Health Inspectors Education Board. Diploma of R.S.H. Meat and Other Foods Inspection. Certificates of Liverpool University School of Hygiene Meat and Food Inspection and Sanitary Knowledge.	
Mr. J. S. Winstanley	Port Health Inspector	1.8.68	Certificate of the Public Health Inspectors Board. Diploma of the R.S.H. for Inspection of Meat and other Foods.	
Mr. W. Taylor	Port Health Inspector	2.7.70	Certificates of the Public Health Inspectors Education Board. Diploma of the R.S.H. for Inspection of Meat and other Foods.	
Mr. G. W. Shaw	Port Health Inspector	8.7.70	Diploma of the Public Health Inspectors Education Board. Liverpool University School of Hygiene Sanitary Science Certificate.	
Mr. G. A. Williams	Deputy Chief Port Health Inspector	1.5.68 Retired 1.7.70	Liverpool University School of Hygiene Meat and other Foods Certificate.	
Mr. E. Moore	Port Health Inspector	18.7.30 Retired 7.7.70	Liverpool University School of Hygiene Sanitary Science Certificate. Liverpool University School of Hygiene Meat and other Foods Certificate.	

TABLE A—Continued

Name of Officer	Nature of Appointment	Date of Appointment	Qualifications	Any other Appointments held
Mr. J. H. Owens	Port Rodent Control Inspector	13.7.70		
Mr. G. M. Gillies	Administrative Assistant	6.5.59	L.G.E.B. Promotion Examination	
Mr. J. L. Stead	Clerical Officer	27.1.64	L.G.E.B. Clerical Examination	
Miss C. Brophy	Shorthand Typist	21.7.69	R.S.A. II Certificates Shorthand and Typing. Pitmans Shorthand Certificate.	

SECTION II

TABLE B

AMOUNT OF SHIPPING ENTERING THE DISTRICT DURING THE YEAR 1970

Ships from	Number	Tonnage	Number Inspected		Number of ships reported as having, or having had during the voyage, infectious disease on board
			By Medical Officers	By Port Health Inspectors	
Foreign Ports...	5,234	15,533,763	34	4,293	42
Coastwise ...	4,046	3,795,042	—	336	1
Total ...	9,280	19,328,805	34	4,629	43

(416 vessels were granted radio clearance by medical officers).

SECTION III

TABLE C

CHARACTER OF SHIPPING AND TRADE DURING THE YEAR

PASSENGER TRAFFIC

No. of passengers INWARDS	No. of passengers OUTWARDS
221,563	216,617

CARGO TRAFFIC

Principal Imports	Principal Exports
Flour, grain, etc., sugar, molasses, etc., wood, fruit and vegetables, cotton, ores and scraps, meat, feeding stuffs for animals, tea, butter, cheese, eggs, etc., cocoa, seeds or nuts for expressing oils, copper, coal, oils, fats, resins and gums, hemp, jute, sisal, etc., hides and skins, tobacco, rubber.	Iron and steel manufactures, chemicals and sodas, salt, machinery, pottery, glass and glassware, sugar, molasses, etc., flour, grain, etc., copper, brass, tin, etc., soap and oils, etc., ale, beer, wine, spirits, etc., cement, electrical goods, etc., paper cardboard etc., vehicles, aircraft, motor cars, locomotives, etc., bricks, cutlery, hardware, etc., fine goods.

Ships arrive in Liverpool from ports all over the world.

SECTION IV

INLAND BARGE TRAFFIC

The number of barges plying in and about the port of Liverpool is approximately 100, representing an estimated total of 12,000 tons.

CANAL BOATS (PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936, PART X)

Number of boats inspected...	26
Number of boats with contraventions	nil

Very few of these vessels were found to be in use as dwellings.

SECTION V

WATER SUPPLY

1. Source of supply

a) The Port.

Liverpool Corporation supplies water for the east side, and Birkenhead and Wallasey Corporations and the West Cheshire Water Board for the West side of the River Mersey.

b) Shipping.

The vessels in dock are supplied by shore hydrants which are situated at almost every berth throughout the port.

c) Airport.

Water is supplied by Liverpool Corporation.

2. Reports on tests for contamination

A constant check is kept by the port health inspectors on the cleanliness and condition of ships' drinking water and friendly co-operation is maintained with officials of the Department of Trade and Industry. Periodic routine samples of water were taken from ships entering the port and samples were also taken, on request, or where there is a suspicion of contamination. During the year 240 samples were taken from 44 vessels and submitted for bacteriological examination. 93 samples were considered to be unsatisfactory and steps were taken to ensure a clean water supply. Eight samples were checked at the airport and three from shore premises, all of which proved to be satisfactory. 14 samples were also taken from a mooring rig stationed in the river. Nine samples were considered to be unsatisfactory but later samples showed the water supply to be clean.

3. Precautions taken against contaminations of hydrants and hosepipes.

Officials of the Water Department are stationed in each dock area. Hoses for supplying water to the ship from shore hydrants may be supplied by the ship, but are usually supplied by the Water Department. Precautions are taken that the hose used does not come into contact with dock water, and water is run through the hose before actual filling is commenced.

4. Number and sanitary condition of water boats.

There are no water boats in use on the River Mersey but several tug boats are specially equipped to carry and supply fresh water to vessels lying in the river. 45 samples of water were taken from tug boats, seven of which were considered unsatisfactory, Subsequent samples were satisfactory.

SECTION VI

PUBLIC HEALTH (SHIPS) REGULATIONS, 1966

1. List of Infected Areas

The list of infected ports is as follows: Brazil, China, Indo-China, India, Pakistan, Burma, Colombia and the port of Dar-Es-Salaam, West African Ports between latitude 20°N and 20°S.

This list is compiled from the Weekly Epidemiological Record of W.H.O. and is notified, in written form, to all officers of H.M. Customs, the river pilotage service and the Mersey Docks and Harbour Board. This list is printed on the declaration of Health Form.

2. **Incoming vessels** arriving in the port which have called during the previous four weeks at any of the above infected ports or which have any infectious sickness to report, are required to send a radio signal to this Authority notifying their time of arrival, date of departure from and name of the last infected port and details of any cases of infectious sickness on board. During office hours these signals are received at the Port Health office, but at all other times the messages are given to the Liverpool Ambulance Service who pass them on to the duty medical officer. If the medical officer is satisfied that the vessel is clear of infectious disease he will inform H.M. Customs who will grant pratique. If he is not satisfied medical clearance will be refused and the vessel will be boarded on arrival. The Master of the vessel is notified of the medical officer's decision.

3. Notifications other than by Radio

Many shipping companies notify the estimated time of arrival of their vessels by letter or by telephone. This has not been found to be always reliable and radio messages from incoming vessels are however always required.

4. Mooring Stations

There has been no change in the designated mooring stations alloted for the examination of shipping, though vessels which require examination before docking are boarded while under way.

5. (a) Cases of infectious disease, other than quarantinable diseases, are accomodated in Fazakerley Isolation Hospital.

(b) There has been no change in the method of surveillance and follow up of contacts of infectious diseases.

(c) Any disinfection which may be required in ships is done by inspectors of the Port Health Authority.

SECTION VII

SMALLPOX

Any cases of smallpox arriving in Liverpool are sent to Sankey Hospital which is situated approximately three miles west of Warrington. Cases for removal are transported by Liverpool Corporation Ambulance Service. The Medical Officer of Health is responsible for the vaccinial state of the Ambulance crews, who would be concerned in any smallpox incident. These crews are vaccinated annually and also when an emergency arises.

Smallpox consultants available are:—

Professor Andrew B. Semple, Health Department, Hatton Garden, Liverpool L3 2AW

Dr. T. L. Hobday, 43 Ullet Road, Liverpool 17.

Professor A. W. Downie, "Cenna", College Close, Liverpool Road, Birkdale, Lancs.

Dr. A. B. Christie, Fazakerley Hospital, Longmoor Lane, Liverpool 9.

Facilities for laboratory diagnosis of smallpox are available in the Liverpool University Bacteriological Department.

SUSPECTED SMALLPOX

On the 23rd March the m.v. "Aureol" arrived from West Africa via Las Palmas and a number of the passengers were examined on arrival by the Principal Port Medical Officer. On the 26th March one of the above passengers was reported to have been admitted to Dundee Isolation Hospital as a suspected case of smallpox. A check was made on all vaccination dates, and members of the crew still on board were medically examined and re-vaccination carried out. Disinfection was also carried out by the port health staff. The name and addresses of the ships crew, passengers and persons who had boarded the vessel were ascertained for the purposes of notification and surveillance.

On the 27th March information was received that the hospital diagnosis had been confirmed as chickenpox.

VACCINATION

Masters of all ships arriving from infected ports in Africa, Asia and the Americas (excluding U.S.A. and Canada), were asked to submit a list of the dates of vaccination of all persons on board.

970 such vessels were visited and 904 lists of crew, passengers and dates of vaccination were received on arrival.

When such lists were not available, vaccination certificates were checked on board where possible, and arrangements made for vaccination or re-vaccination as necessary.

SECTION VIII

VENEREAL DISEASE

24 cases of venereal disease in nine ships were reported during the year. Wherever possible cases were referred for clinic treatment.

Small cards showing the location of treatment centres and times of attendance were issued where appropriate, and these are listed below.

VENEREAL DISEASE TIME-TABLE OF TREATMENT CENTRES

Monday	
Seaman's Dispensary	9.30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 3 to 5 p.m.
Royal Infirmary	10.30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 5.30 to 7 p.m.
Tuesday	
Seaman's Dispensary	9.30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 3 to 7 p.m.
Wednesday	
Seaman's Dispensary	9.30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 3 to 5 p.m.
Royal Infirmary	10.30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 5.30 to 6.30 p.m.
Thursday	
Seamen's Dispensary	9.30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 3 to 7 p.m.
Friday	
Seamen's Dispensary	9.30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 3 to 5 p.m.
Royal Infirmary	10.30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 5 to 7 p.m.
Saturday	
Seamen's Dispensary	9.30 a.m. to 12 noon
Royal Infirmary	By arrangement.

CLINICS IN OTHER MERSEYSIDE AREAS

St.James' Hospital	Monday and Friday	2 to 6 p.m.
Tollemache Road, Birkenhead	Wednesday only	10 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

SECTION IX

CASES OF NOTIFIABLE AND OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASE IN SHIPS

No cases of Cholera, Plague, Smallpox, Typhus, Yellow Fever or Relapsing Fever occurred in the Port during 1970.

TABLE D

The number of cases of infectious disease landed from vessels arriving at Liverpool and those occurring in Liverpool-bound ships which were disposed of before arrival, are shown in the following tables:—

CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS LANDED FROM VESSELS DURING 1970

Diseases	No. of Cases during Year		No. of Vessels concerned
	Passengers	Crew	
Quarantinable Diseases			
Cholera...	—	—	—
Plague	—	—	—
Smallpox	—	—	—
Typhus Fever	—	—	—
Yellow Fever	—	—	—
Relapsing Fever	—	—	—
Other Infectious Diseases			
Chickenpox	2	1	3
Dysentery	—	1	1
Gastro-enteritis	—	8	5
Influenza	—	6	4
Measles	2	2	3
Mumps	—	1	1
Pyrexia	—	1	1
Tuberculosis	—	1	1
Totals	4	21	19

CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS OCCURRING IN VESSELS DURING THE VOYAGE BUT DISPOSED OF PRIOR TO ARRIVAL. YEAR 1970

Diseases	No. of Cases during Year		No. of Vessels concerned
	Passengers	Crew	
Quarantinable Diseases			
Cholera	—	—	—
Plague	—	—	—
Smallpox	—	—	—
Typhus Fever	—	—	—
Yellow Fever	—	—	—
Relapsing Fever	—	—	—
Other Infectious Diseases			
Chickenpox	1	—	1
Dysentery	—	24	3
Gastro-enteritis	—	4	2
German measles	—	4	1
Infective Hepatitis	—	1	1
Influenza	—	1	1
Malaria	1	2	2
Tuberculosis	—	1	1
Totals	2	37	12

CASES LANDED FROM COASTWISE VESSELS

Diseases	No. of Cases during Year		No. of Vessels concerned
	Passengers	Crew	
Gastro-enteritis	—	1	1

SUSPECTED DYSENTERY

The m.v. "Aureol" arrived from West Africa via Las Palmas on the 4th May, 1970. The Principal Port Medical Officer gave medical clearance by radio on the 3rd May. After boarding the vessel on arrival it was ascertained that there had been nine cases of suspected bacillary dysentery during the voyage, all of whom had proceeded home on arrival.

The medical officers of health concerned were notified. The infected quarters and bedding were disinfected. Samples of the ship's drinking water were taken and specimens of faeces were also taken from the ship's kitchen staff and together with samples of food and swabs taken from the food handling surfaces were submitted for bacteriological examination.

Two of the water samples proved to have a high bacterial colony count, and the taps concerned were sterilized and further samples which were taken proved to be satisfactory. One of the samples of food was found to be positive Sal. senftenberg and was disposed of. Three specimens of faeces taken from the catering staff proved to be positive: two of the staff in question, whose specimens were positive Sal. senftenberg, were taken off kitchen duties and given treatment; the other member of the kitchen staff whose specimen proved to be Sal. typhi murium, phage type 32, had left the vessel and the Medical Officer of Health concerned and the Company Superintendent was notified.

TYPHOID FEVER

The s.s. "Indian Success" arrived from India via Mombassa and Las Palmas on the 20th September.

One case of fever and abdominal pains was landed via the Mersey Pilot Launch at Pier Head and taken by City Ambulance to the Northern Hospital and was later transferred to Fazakerley Hospital suffering from suspected typhoid fever.

Six other members of the crew had reported sick during the voyage suffering from slight fever and abdominal pains, but all had recovered on arrival and resumed duties.

Disinfection was carried out and specimens of faeces taken from the crew were submitted for bacteriological examination. One of the specimens of faeces taken proved to be positive typhi (Phage type Vi E4) and this member of the crew was removed to Fazakerley Hospital 23rd September, 1970, and disinfection carried out. Further specimens of faeces were then taken from other members of the crew every three days, three of which proved to be positive S. Bareilly, S. Heidelburg and Shigella Boydii. Samples of drinking water were taken on the 21st September and also on the 30th September one of which was found to be unsatisfactory. The vessel sailed to London on the 1st October, and the Medical Officer of Health, London Port Health Authority was informed.

GASTRO-ENTERITIS

On the 24th September the m.v. "Assiout" arrived from Malta, Benghazi and Tripoli (Lib). Three cases of suspected salmonellosis were reported and allowed to proceed for treatment at home; disinfection of their quarters was carried out. Of six samples of water sent for bacteriological examination five proved to have a high colony count and the entire drinking water system was heavily chlorinated, pumped out and refilled with clean water. Further samples taken proved to be satisfactory. Samples of food were also taken and examined for salmonella organisms and for cholera vibrio. All proved to be negative. Specimens of faeces from members of the crew were also sent for bacteriological examination and one specimen proved to be positive S. Bareilly. This member of the crew had proceeded home. Particulars were forwarded to the Medical Officer of the district concerned and to the Shipping Company who stated that he would not be rejoining the vessel until after treatment and found to be free from infection.

DISINFECTION

During the year 23 disinfections after infectious disease were carried out by officers of this Authority. Infected bed and bedding was removed by the City staff for steam disinfection.

SECTION X

OBSERVATIONS ON THE OCCURENCE OF MALARIA IN SHIPS

Two cases of Malaria or suspected Malaria fever in two ships were notified. One case was later diagnosed as tonsillitis.

SECTION XI

MEASURES TAKEN AGAINST SHIPS INFECTED WITH OR SUSPECTED FOR PLAGUE

No rodent plague was discovered either in ships or ashore. Two suspected rats were sent for bacteriological examination and proved to be negative.

SECTION XII

MEASURES AGAINST RODENTS IN SHIPS FROM FOREIGN PORTS

The Port is divided into districts and a port health inspector, a rat-searcher and a rat-catcher are allotted to each district. The rat-searcher looks for evidence of rats and detects rat harbourages and the rat-catcher deals with any infestation found, and in addition obtains samples of the rat populations for bacteriological examination. Special precautions are taken in or near ships trading with plague-infected ports. Each rodent operative is given specific tasks daily to be carried out at set times, and the work is checked by the Rodent Control Inspector.

RATGUARDS

Foreign-going ships, whether arriving from abroad, or proceeding coast-wise are visited as soon as possible after arrival by a port health inspector and advised to fit ratguards on all moorings.

1. Procedure for Inspection of Ships for Rats

(a) Enquiries and inspection by port health inspectors.

(b) Routine searching by rat-searchers who search ships on arrival, and also make periodic re-visits during the discharge of cargo. Coastal shipping and harbour craft are searched periodically.

(c) When application is made for a deratting or deratting exemption certificate the ship, when empty, is searched throughout.

(d) Immediate investigation is undertaken when reports of infestation are received from shipowners, agents, ship masters and officers, dock-workers or privately employed rat-catchers.

2. Arrangements for the bacteriological or pathological examination of rodents with special reference to rodent plague.

Any rats suspected of being plague infected, or any rats found dead without visible marks of violence are dipped in paraffin, labelled and taken immediately for bacteriological examination.

Traps are set in all ships from plague-infected ports and also in other foreign-going ships where rat evidence is detected or reported.

3. Arrangements in the districts for deratting ships, the methods used and if done by a commercial contract, the name of the contractor.

Agents or owners of ships found to be infested with rats, are in their own interests, advised to take appropriate action, even if the ship holds a valid international deratting or deratting exemption certificate, or rodent control certificate.

Many of the larger shipping companies employ rodent operatives under private contract, whilst other employ rodent exterminators as required.

Deratting in ships

(a) Routine trapping by port health rodent operatives.

(b) Trapping and/or poisoning by rodent operatives, employed by ship owners or agents.

(c) Fumigation with hydrogen cyanide gas or sulphur dioxide.

Principal Contractors

The principal contractors carrying out rodent exterminations and fumigations in the port, approved by the Port Health Authority are:—

(a) Rat-catching	Rentokil Laboratories Limited. Hivey Fumigation Company. Sewell Pest Prevention Services Limited.
(b) Fumigations	Rentokil Laboratories Limited. Hivey Fumigation Company.

Deratting on dock premises

(a) Routine trapping and, or, poisoning by port health rodent operatives.

(b) Routine trapping and poisoning by rodent operatives employed by the Mersey Docks and Harbour Board.

(c) Trapping and poisoning by private contractors employed by shipping companies and warehouse owners.

4. Rat Proofing

When temporary or permanent harbourage is discovered in ships, the master and the owners (or agents), are informed and advised how to eliminate it. Before a deratting or deratting exemption certificate is issued an effort is made to ensure that a ship is made reasonably rat proof. Details of any rat harbourage present are entered on the certificate. Temporary harbourage consisting of accumulations of dunnage, wood, cargo mats and stores of all kinds, is very prevalent and receives constant attention.

TABLE E

RATS DESTROYED

Rodents Destroyed During the Year 1970 in Ships from Foreign Ports

Category	
Black Rats	161
Brown Rats	2
Species not known	—
Sent for examination	32
Infected with plague	—

Rodents Destroyed During the Year 1970 in Docks, Quays Wharves and Warehouses

Category	Number
Black Rats	606
Brown Rats	282
Species not known	—
Sent for examination	109
Infected with plague	—

Number of mice destroyed in vessels	149
Number of mice destroyed on quays	698
Number of mice examined from vessels and quays ...	78

In addition to the above 1,927 rats and 63 mice were caught and destroyed by the Dock Board rat-catchers and private agencies.

Number of Visits to Vessels by Rat-Catchers	3,721
Number of Visits to Vessels by Rat-Searchers	3,982
Number of Visits to Quays, Sheds, etc., by Inspectors ...	120
Number of Visits to Quays, Sheds, etc., by Rat-Catchers...	20,462
Number of Visits to Quays, Sheds, etc., by Rat-Searchers...	1,742

TABLE F

DERATTING CERTIFICATES ISSUED

Deratting Certificates abd Deratting Exemption Certificates Issued During the Year 1970

Number of Deratting Certificates issued after Fumigation with			After Trapping, Poisoning, etc,	Total	No. of Deratting Exemption Certificates issued	Total Certificates issued
H.C.N.	Sulphur	H.C.N. and Sulphur				
8	2	—	—	10	504	514

During the year 20 Rodent Control Certificates were issued to coastwise vessels.

SECTION XIII

INSPECTION OF SHIPS FOR NUISANCES

The routine inspection of ships for nuisances shows a similar situation to that of the previous year except for the incident of cockroach infestation which has declined. The provision of ships with a supply of insecticide, better arrangements for handling and storing food and the increasing use of metal alloys instead of wood in the fitting out of galleys are possibly the reasons for this.

A layout of accommodation, with a crew messroom and an officers' messroom situated on either side of the galley, with only one and not separate pantries, is now to be found. This, and the use of laminated plastics throughout the accommodation in new tonnage, is raising the standard of hygiene.

Most nuisances were abated prior to the vessels departure from the port. This will become increasingly difficult to achieve, as the turn round of ships is speeded up, due to containerisation and the use of modern techniques in loading and discharging, unless standards of sanitation, maintenance and care continue to improve.

Port Health Inspectors visiting and inspecting ships in port are always willing to give advice or instruction on any matters concerning health, food hygiene, or the successful elimination of verminous conditions.

TABLE G

INSPECTIONS AND NOTICES

Year 1970

Nature and Number of Inspections		Notices Served		Results of Serving Notices	
		Statutory	Other Notices		
Nature of Inspection					Nusiances
Dirty Crew Quarters	—	none	5	5	Remedied
Verminous Quarters	—	,,	424	418	,,
Dirty Washhouses or W.C.'s	—	,,	—	—	,,
Foul Water Tanks	—	,,	—	—	,,
Foul or Choked W.C.'s	—	,,	9	9	,,
Accumulations of offensive refuse	—	,,	5	5	,,
Dirty Pantries and Galleys	—	,,	17	17	,,
Dirty Storerooms	—	,,	7	7	,,
Leaky Deckheads	—	,,	—	—	,,
Defective Heating System	—	,,	—	—	,,
Defective Bulkheads	—	,,	—	—	,,
Defective Portlights, Skylights, etc	—	,,	—	—	,,
Defective or Inadequate Ventilation	—	,,	2	—	,,
Defective Deck Covering	—	,,	2	—	,,
Gear Stowed in Crew's Quarters	—	,,	—	—	,,
Damp Quarters	—	,,	—	—	,,
Rat Harbourage	—	,,	2	2	,,
Defective W.C. Fittings	—	,,	1	—	,,
Defective Soil Pipes	—	,,	—	—	,,
Defective Waste Pipes or Scuppers	—	,,	1	—	,,
Defective Washing Facilities	—	,,	1	1	,,
Inadequate Lighting	—	,,	—	—	,,
Smoke Nuisances	—	,,	31	31	,,
W.C.'s discharging on Quay	—	,,	49	19	,,
Miscellaneous	—	,,	11	6	,,
Number of Inspections	4,629				
Total	4,629	—	567	520	,,

NATIONALITY OF SHIPS VISITED

YEAR 1970

Nationality	Visits	Re-visits	Total
British	2,213	85	2,298
German	476	12	488
Dutch	359	7	366
Norwegian	274	10	284
Danish	211	4	215
Liberian	162	7	169
Spanish	125	3	128
Russian	120	1	121
Greek	97	22	119
Swedish	88	1	89
Indian	43	17	60
Polish	38	—	38
Irish	36	—	36
United Arab Republic	32	13	45
French	27	—	27
Yugoslav	24	1	25
Cyprian	23	4	27
Bulgarian	19	1	20
Argentine	17	1	18
Italian	16	2	18
Portuguese	16	1	17
Nigerian	15	3	18
Isreali	15	2	17
South African	15	1	16
Kuwaiti	14	—	14
Japanese	14	—	14
Pakistani	13	10	23
Sudanese	13	1	14
Panamanian	13	—	13
Brazilian	11	1	12
American	11	—	11
Philippine	8	1	9
Turkish	7	—	7
Peruvian	7	—	7
Iranian	6	1	7
Rumanian	6	1	7
Finnish	5	—	5
Belgian	4	—	4
Chilean	4	—	4
Ghanaian	4	—	4
Swiss	3	3	6
Faroese	3	—	3
Honduran	3	—	3
Chinese	3	—	3
Cuban	2	—	2
Tanzanian	2	—	2
Ugandian	2	—	2
East German	2	—	2
Icelandic	2	—	2
Persian	2	—	2
Burmese	1	—	1
Canadian	1	—	1
Czechoslovak	1	—	1
Mauritanian	1	—	1
Totals ...	4,629	216	4,845

INSPECTION OF DOCK PREMISES

Rebuilding and modernisation of premises in the dock area is still continuing together with new amenities for dock workers in addition to those mentioned in previous reports.

Good co-operation with officials of the Mersey Docks and Harbour Board has been maintained at all times concerning dock premises.

The cleanliness of sheds and roadways has improved and the provision of container bins has been a great asset.

Sanitary accomodation within the dock estate is regularly cleaned by a private contractor and occasional defects are promptly dealt with by the Mersey Docks and Harbour Board.

Seven locker blocks where dock workers can change their clothes and wash and shower if they wish, are now in use and after a slow start more workers appear to be taking advantage of these facilities.

Routine inspection of dock premises was maintained during the year and the following defects and nuisances were dealt with.

Description of Premises	Defective or Inadequate															
	Lighting	Heating	Ventilation	W.C. Accommodation	Drainage	Structural Defects	Rat Harbourage	Rat Infestation	Accumulated Refuse	Noxious Effluvia	Dirty Conditions	Verminous Conditions	Damp Conditions	Water Supply	Miscellaneous	Total
Dock Sheds	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	20	14	1	23	—	—	—	—	65
Quays ...	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	2	40	—	5	—	—	—	1	52
Roadways ...	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	64	1	2	—	—	—	—	70
Canteens —	—	—	—	1	3	5	4	8	5	—	8	3	—	1	21	59
Factories	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	4
Warehouses	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
San. Conveniences	—	—	—	1	4	2	—	—	—	—	49	—	—	5	—	61
Airport	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	8	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	14
Offices ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Total	—	—	—	3	14	9	18	42	123	2	87	3	—	8	22	331

DOCK CANTEENS

Three new canteens of modern construction and fitted with the latest equipment have been opened during the year. Six of the older canteens have been closed. Two new canteens are under contruction and will be completed in the near future when two old type canteens, which they replaced will be closed. This will leave only two old type canteens, which it is hoped will soon be replaced.

The standard of food hygiene has improved generally, due no doubt, to better conditions and equipment. One canteen concessionaire has provided a course on food hygiene for all the staff and this has helped to raise the standard considerably.

Tea cabins continue to operate successfully and the cleaning of dispensary machines is of a high standard. Regular checks on these machines are carried out with very few complaints.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

Three new premises have been registered under the above Act all of which complied with the provisions laid down. Both caterers and the owners (Mersey Docks and Harbour Board) are now familiar with the requirements of this Act. All contraventions in new premises have now been cleared.

STATISTICAL RETURN

General Inspections—Catering Establishments ...	3
Additional visits ,, ,, ...	589
Additional visits—Staff Canteens	64
Infringments Relating to:— ...	
Cleanliness (Sec. 4)	12
Ventilation (Sec. 7)	1
Maintenance of Sanitary Conveniences (Sec. 9) ...	9
Insufficient W.C.s (Sec. 9)	1
Drinking water supply (Sec. 11)	1
Total number of infringements	24

THE FOOD HYGIENE (DOCKS, CARRIERS, ETC), REGULATIONS 1960

During the year 80 ships entered the Port carrying cargoes of open food. 82 berths were inspected and one was found unsuitable. Berths where meat is discharged are in regular use, and are kept in a fit state by the berth holders who are familiar with the requirements, only when an additional outside berth is required does any difficulty occur. Washing facilities are available to all berths and protective clothing is supplied and worn by all handlers on the quay.

SECTION XIV

PUBLIC HEALTH (SHELLFISH) REGULATIONS 1934-48

Warning notices that "Shellfish taken from the area of the Port of Liverpool are likely to be polluted and could cause serious illness to those consuming them", and "that it is an offence for any shellfish to be collected from this area and to be sold for human consumption, unless the shellfish have been subjected to a process of sterilisation approved by the Port Health Authority", are erected at suitable sites on the Lancashire and Cheshire approaches to the shore on each side of the River Mersey. During the year these notices were replaced or renewed where necessary.

No cases of food poisoning or other sickness resulting from the consumption of shellfish were reported.

No prosecutions were instituted.

RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS

All vessels loading or discharging radioactive materials were visited by a port health inspector.

Information is received from the Mersey Docks and Harbour Board concerning ships entering or leaving the port with this type of cargo, giving particulars including the amount to be loaded or discharged, transport group, radiation category transport index and type of packaging.

During the year 96 ships were visited and of these 62 were loading and 34 discharging radioactive cargo. There were no cases of spillage to report.

SMOKE CONTROL

Clean Air Act 1956. The Dark Smoke (Permitted Periods) (Vessels) Regulations 1958

Careful attention was paid to smoke nuisances and when necessary special observations were made.

The attention of the Master and/or Chief Engineer of 29 vessels had to be drawn to the above Regulations. In every case the nuisance was abated and no proceedings were instituted.

OIL POLLUTION OF BEACHES

Mr. J. G. McCoy, Chief Port Health Inspector, represented the Port Health Authority at further meetings and termination of the Scientific Study Group of the Oil Pollution Working Party, Mersey Estuary.

The Mersey Docks and Harbour Board acted as convenor of the group.

SECTION XV

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF ALIENS AND COMMONWEALTH IMMIGRANTS

Medical Officers holding Warrants of Appointment as medical inspectors of Aliens and Commonwealth Immigrants are:—

Professor Andrew B. Semple
Dr. R. R. Hair
Dr. R. S. E. Cutcliffe
Dr. J. K. Howard
Dr. S. G. Rubin

No other staff are regularly engaged on-this work, though the medical officers may be assisted by health visitors from the City Staff when necessary. Normally, immigration officers refer to the medical officers any passengers who they have reason to believe may require examination under the Aliens Order or the Commonwealth Immigrants Act; a medical officer is therefore always present during the disembarkation of passengers.

Details of Aliens and Commonwealth Immigrants during 1970.

Total number of vessels carrying alien and commonwealtn immigrant passengers	2,774
Number of vessels dealt with by the Medical Inspectors	25
Number of aircraft dealt with by the Medical Inspectors	1

Aliens

Total number of aliens landed in the port	5,178
Number subjected to detailed examination by Medical Inspectors ...	22
Certificates issued by Medical Inspectors...	2

Commonwealth Immigrants

Total number of Commonwealth Immigrants landed in the port ...	3,181
Number medically examined	163
Certificates issued by Medical Inspectors...	1

Medical inspection of alien and Commonwealth immigrant passengers is normally conducted either in the ship itself, or, in relation to aircraft, in the examination room at Liverpool Airport.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS ASSOCIATION—ANNUAL CONFERENCE

This was attended by Mr. J. G. McCoy, Chief Port Health Inspector. Papers on technical subjects were read and Mr. McCoy took part in a discussion on Health Control at an Airport and also opened a discussion on modern developments in sea transport.

CONTAINER TRAFFIC

During the year Mr. J. G. McCoy, Chief Port Health Inspector took part in consultations concerning the health aspects of container use in international traffic, at the request of the World Health Organisation, Geneva.

SPECIAL VISITORS

During the year visits were paid by the following overseas health officials.

They were given the opportunity of seeing the day-to-day work of the Authority with emphasis on any aspect in which they were particularly interested.

Dr. Vahide Platin, a medical officer of health from Turkey on 6th March.

Dr. Roelsgaard, a chief medical officer of the World Health Organization in Geneva, concerning containers, on 15th April.

Messrs. Bekele and Belaineh, public health inspectors from Ethiopia, under W. H. O. Fellowships, from 26th May to 5th June.

Dr. V. de Silva, a medical officer of health from Ceylon on 9th and 10th July.

Dr. I. K. Raivio, medical officer to the Helsinki Board of Health, on 15th October.

FOOD INSPECTION

The continued growth of container traffic has been the most significant factor of change during 1970.

There has been an increase in the importation of pre-packed foodstuffs and this has meant a rise in the number of samples sent for analysis.

International standards for preservatives, colouring matter, anti-oxidants, etc., have not yet been implemented, but foodstuffs likely to contain these additives require analysis, to comply with national requirements.

The increased research into pollution of the environment has necessitated a more vigilant attitude to a number of commodities as shown by the recent findings of mercury in fish.

CONTAINERS OF FOODSTUFFS WHICH ARRIVED AT LIVERPOOL DURING 1970

Month	From Overseas	From Eire
January	86	550
February	78	480
March	83	370
April	175	501
May	151	441
June	97	370
July	99	259
August	80	474
September	243	618
October	355	565
November	353	582
December	270	475
Total	2,070	5,685

The number of containers of foodstuffs arriving at the port continues to increase. The introduction of new container services from Spain and Portugal resulted in the large increase in containers from overseas from September onwards. The container services from Canada and the U.S.A. have been increased and the number of containers carried by conventional cargo ships in all trades has also increased.

The number of containers from overseas has increased by 133% over the number for the previous year and the number from Eire has increased by 46%.

GROUNDNUTS IN SHELL

Twenty-six consignments of this commodity were imported during the year totalling approximately 956 tons.

Samples were submitted to the City Analyst from each consignment. These samples are examined for the presence of Aflatoxin and if this toxin is found in excess of 0.05 ppm the consignment is rejected. The details of all consignments and the action taken are set out in the following table.

Country of Origin	Quantity	Aflatoxin	Action Taken
Brazil	20 tons	None detected	Released
,,	25 ,,	,, ,,	,,
,,	13 ,,	,, ,,	
,,	37 ,,	,, ,,	,,
,,	10 ,,	,, ,,	,,
,,	13 ,,	,, ,,	,,
,,	10 ,,	,, ,,	,,
,,	25 ,,	,, ,,	,,
,,	25 ,,	,, ,,	,,
China	1 ton	None detected	Released
India	25 tons	None detected	Released
,,	50 ,,	,, ,,	,,
,,	71 ,,	,, ,,	,,
,,	1 ,,	0.1 p.p.m.	Rejected and used for bird feeding purposes.
Libya	9 tons	None detected	Released
,,	20 ,,	,, ,,	,,
,,	10 ,,	0.1 p.p.m.	Rejected and used for animal feeding purposes.
Malaysia	200 lbs.	None detected	Released
Senegal	49 tons	None detected	Released
,,	25 ,,	,, ,,	,,
,,	220 ,,	,,	,,
,,	51 ,,	,, ,,	,,
,,	20 ,,	,, ,,	,,
,,	162 ,,	,, ,,	,,
,,	39 ,,	,, ,,	,,
Sudan	25 tons	None detected	Released
	23 consignments = 945 tons 200lbs	under	Released
	2 consignments = 11 tons	over	Rejected
	25 consignments = 956 tons 200lbs	Total imports through Liverpool during 1970	

CONTAMINATED LOOSE-COLLECTED GROUNDNUT KERNELS

Loose collected groundnuts spilled from torn bags are rejected as being unfit for human consumption and are allowed to be used for animal feeding purposes. During the course of the year a total of 18,905 lbs was dealt with in this way.

DESICCATED COCONUT

Samples of desiccated coconut were taken throughout the year to be examined for the presence of Salmonella organisms. 110 such samples were taken.

Salmonella Waycross was isolated in a consignment of 50 bags, the produce of Ceylon. The Trade Commissioner of the Ceylon High Commission in the U.K. and the Medical Research Institute at Colombo were informed.

442 samples of desiccated coconut were submitted to the City Analyst for chemical analysis. All were subsequently released.

MEAT AND MEAT PRODUCTS

The following tables give details of meat and meat products found to be unsound and irregularities in connection with Official Certificates.

Country of Origin	Vessel and date	consignments	Condition and Action Taken
New Zealand	"Port St. Lawrence" 9.9.1970	500 carcases of Frozen Ewes	A 50% examination of the carcases showed 1.6% to be affected by Caseous Lymphadenitis. Four forequarters weighing 46-lbs were rejected and released for industrial purposes.
Australia	"*Delphic*"	154 cartons of Frozen Point end of Briskets	A 100% examination of this consignment was made. 770 Briskets were examined and 31 (4%) were found to be affected by onchocerciasis. 67-lbs of meat was rejected and released for industrial purposes.
New Zealand	"*Majestic*"	60 cartons of "Paddywhacks"	Rejected on the advice of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food as being scrapmeat. At present awaiting disposal.
	"*Auckland Star*"	333 cartons of "Paddywhacks"	Rejected on the advice of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food as being scrapmeat. At present awaiting disposal.

IRREGULARITIES IN CONNECTION WITH OFFICIAL CERTIFICATE PROCEDURE

Country of Orignin	Vessel and date of importation	Consignment	Details of Infringement and Action Taken
Federal Republic of Germany and Switzerland	"Wollin" 9.4.70	$289\frac{1}{2}$ tons Bulk Lard $24\frac{1}{2}$ tons Bulk Lard	The Swiss lard was accompanied by an Official Certificate bearing the number 257. This at the time was not an approved establishment. The whole consignment was detained as it was not possible to determine into which of the ships tanks the Swiss lard had been loaded. After consulting with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food the whole consignment was released as establishment No. 257 had been approved but not yet officially published.
Spain	"*Nitrico*" 28.5.70	1,300 tons Bulk Lard	The certificates relating to the lard were not in the proper form and did not specify that the ships tanks were clean prior to loading. The two consignments were released after consultations with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food, who were satisfied that the lard came from an approved establishment and that the ships tanks were clean prior to loading.
	"*Fosforico*" 27.12.70	984 tons Bulk Lard	
New Zealand	"*Westbury*" 2.9.70	26 casks White Mutton Tallow (Edible) 10 tons	The casks did not bear an official certificate. All the casks were detained but released the same day on receipt from the importer of a guarantee that they would not be used for edible purposes. The Medical Officer of Health for the various places to which it was consignd were notified.
Hong Kong	"*Peisander*" 12.11.70	2 cases fried pigskin 120-lbs.	The cases did not bear an official certificate and did not originate from an approved establishment. These goods have been re-exported.

BULK LARD

A total of 91 consignments of bulk lard (69,703 tons) were imported through the port this year.

This shows an increased tonnage of 11.2% on the tonnage for last year. The tonnage imported from Europe has decreased by 38.7% whilst that for the U.S.A. has increased by 35.6%.

TABLE OF BULK LARD SHIPMENTS

	From U.S.A.	From Europe
Number of Shipments	21	21
Number of Consignments	63	28
Tonnages	56,756	12,947

IMPORTED EGG AND EGG PRODUCTS

Samples of egg and egg products are submitted to the Public Health Laboratory Service for examination for Salmonella Organisms and, in the case of whole liquid frozen egg the alpha-amylase test.

Country of Origin	Consignments	Findings	Action Taken
Australia	2 consignments frozen liquid whole egg (pasteurised) = 18,935 tins. Weight = 236 tons 13 cwts 3 qrs 0-lbs.	Alpha-amylase test satisfactory. No Salmonella	Released
Botany Bay	1 consignment frozen liquid egg albumen = 1,230 tins Weight = 15 tons 7 cwts 2 qrs 0-lbs	No Salmonella	Released
China	2 consignments spray dried whole egg (pasteurised) = 200 cases Weight = 8 tons 18 cwts 2 qrs 8-lbs	No Salmonella	Released
Hong Kong	1 consignment Fun Won Rolls (containing egg) = 1 case Weight = 2qrs 0-lbs	No Salmonella	Released
	1 consignment preserved duck egg = 5 cases Weight = 1 cwt 2 qrs 0-lbs	No Salmonella	Released

Country of Origin	Consignments	Findings	Action Taken
U.S.A.	4 consignments dried egg albumen — 229 ctns Weight = 5 tons 10 cwts 0 qrs 24-lbs.	No Salmonella	Released
	3 consignments fancy flake egg albumen = 110 ctns Weight = 2 tons 17 cwts 0 qrs 8-lbs.	No Salmonella	Released
	3 consingments dried whole egg = 240 ctns Weight = 6 tons 0 cwts 0 qrs 0-lbs.	No Salmonella	Released
	2 consignments granular egg albumen = 80 ctns Weight = 2 tons 0 cwts 0 qrs 0-lbs.	No Salmonella	Released
	1 consignment spray dried egg white solids = 25 ctns Weight = 9 cwt 3 qrs 8-lbs.	No Salmonella	Released
	3 consignments flake hen egg albumen = 348 ctns Weight = 9 ton 6 cwt 1 qr 20-lbs.	No Salmonella	Released
	1 consignment flake hen egg albumen = 12 ctns Weight = 6 cwt 48-lbs.	Salmonella Typhimurium present	Returned to the U.S.A.
	1 consignment spray dried egg albumen = 25 ctns Weight = 9 cwt 92-lbs.	No Salmonella	Released
	1 consignment egg white solids = 25 ctns Weight = 6 cwt 28-lbs	No Salmonella	Released

CRUSTACEA

The following table gives details of prawns and shrimps imported during the year:—

Country of Origin	No. of consignments	No. of packages	Findings	Remarks
Australia	5	699	Satisfactory	Released
Brazil	1	24	Satisfactory	Released
Canada	4	3,546	Satisfactory	Released
	7	4,751	—	Examined at Grimsby
Ceylon	1	49	Satisfactory	Released
	1	150	—	Examined at London
Chile	4	2,000	Unsatisfactory	Released after warning letter sent to importers.
	10	3,013	—	Examined at Grimsby
	1	240	—	Examined at Thurrock
	1	91	Satisfactory	Released
Guyana	1	533	—	Examined at Grimsby
India	5	440	Satisfactory	Released
	5	260	Unsatisfactory	Rejected and awaiting disposal

Country of Origin	No. of consignments	No. of packages	Findings	Remarks
Ivory Coast ...	1	594	Satisfactory	Released
Japan	26	18,590	Satisfactory	Released
Liberia	7	234	Satisfactory	Released
	1	330	—	Examined at Salisbury
	1	124	—	Examined at Birmingham
Pakistan	1	430	Satisfactory	Released
	1	33	—	Examined at Southwark
Malaysia	3	135	Satisfactory	Released
	1	125	Unsatisfactory	Rejected and re-exported
	14	4,737	—	Examined at Grimsby
Republic of China... (Taiwan)... ...	2	1,200	Satisfactory	Released
	2	2,420	—	Examined at Grimsby
U.S.A.	2	680	Satisfactory	Released
	1	593	—	Examined at Thurrock
	1	300	—	Examined at Tynemouth
Total	110	46,321		

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

The routine inspection of fruit and vegetables showed only one case of a large percentage of a consignment being unfit, details of which are given below.

m.v. "Cotopaxi" arrived from Peru with 9,324 crates of melons. Of these, 2,502 crates (38 tons) were rejected and destroyed. A further 1,685 crates were allowed to go forward to Sutton Bridge for sorting under the supervision and with the consent of the local Health Inspector.

DAMAGED CARGOES

m.v. "Villegas" from Spain 12.1.70

This vessel arrived with a general cargo including 1,012 crates of bitter oranges and 11,500 cartons of canned tomato juice.

Due to heavy weather and other circumstances some of the oranges and tomato juice were crushed. This resulted in a percentage of the oranges becoming mouldy.

The oranges were sorted on the quay and as a result 30 crates (2.96%) were rejected.

Of the canned goods some were sorted on the quay and some in local warehouses. The result was 192 cartons (2.56%) out of a total of 7,500 being rejected. The remaining 4,000 cartons were delivered to another authority for sorting under the supervision of the local Public Health Inspector with the permission of the local Medical Officer of Health.

m.v. "Jalagovind" from India 3.2.70

A consignment of 1,137 cases of shelled walnuts (weighing over 14 tons) was found on discharge to be moderately infested with the pest red flour beetle and Indian insect moth larvae. After fumigation with methyl bromide the nuts were taken to local warehouses for hand cleaning and sorting under the supervision of the Port Health Inspectors. This resulted in 722lb of nuts (2.3%) being rejected and subsequently destroyed.

"Anina" from U.S.A. 29.3.70

This vessel arrived with a consignment of 5,581 tons of bulk lard which was discharged into road tanker vehicles. The ship had previously carried a cargo of paraffin wax and the ship's pipelines had not been properly cleaned. The lard, heated to maintain it in a liquid form, melted the wax and the contents of two road tanker vehicles (approximately 20 tons) was contaminated and rejected. It was subsequently used for industrial purposes.

m.v. "Albistan" from Iraq 10.8.70

This vessel discharged 57,340 packages of dates (828 tons) including over 38,000 cases each containing 48, 8oz. packets.

Signs of insect infestation were seen in a number of consignments and filth tests were carried out on a number of samples by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and by the City Analyst. These tests showed a high degree of infestation with the saw-toothed grain beetle and various other insects.

The whole cargo of dates was detained but some had already been delivered. The Medical Officers of Health of the various authorities were informed and were kept informed as further results of sampling were obtained.

The whole cargo was fumigated with methyl bromide on the instruction of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

As a result of visual examinations and the filth tests findings the entire cargo remaining within the port was rejected as being unfit for human consumption. This amounted to 49,976 cartons weighing 676 tons.

It has not yet been disposed of but is expected to go for animal feeding purposes.

Officers of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (Infestation Control Division) co-operated to the full with the officers of the Authority and their assistance is greatly appreciated.

"Max Sieghold" from Eastern Mediterranean Ports 19.12.70

After loading dried fruit at ports in Western Greece this vessel proceeded to Constanza and loaded drums that had contained tetra-ethyl-lead. On arrival at Izmir to load more cargo it was discovered that some of the drums were not completely empty, as had been supposed, and had leaked.

The ship was decontaminated and proceeded to Holyhead to discharge the drums and then came on to Liverpool.

The cargo was discharged in tiers and each group of five tiers was stowed separately in the dock shed and sampled. The discharge of the ship was carried out in this manner so that in the event of one or more samples showing evidence of contamination it would be possible to indentify the cartons likely to have been affected.

The whole cargo of dried fruit was detained but was subsequently released when it was found that none of the samples analysed showed evidence of contamination.

CANNED GOODS

"Clan Graham" from South Africa 1.10.70

The above vessel carried a general cargo including a large consignment of canned goods. Due to heavy weather a number of cartons were damaged. As a result of sorting on the quay and in warehouses a total of 6,486 tins of fruit were rejected and destroyed.

IMPORTATIONS OF FOOD OTHER THAN FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION

61 consignments comprising 282,835 packages of frozen raw material (meat and offal) were imported during 1970, and were delivered to approved processors to be sterilized prior to sale as pet food.

These figures include 1,202 packages of frozen horsemeat and 1,862 packages of frozen kangaroo meat.

None of the consignments presented any outstanding difficulty during the course of the year.

EXCESSIVE METALLIC CONTAMINATION OF GOODS

27 samples were taken and examined for metal contamination. A sample from a consignment of canned processed plums consisting of 4 cases, each containing 48 × 16 oz. tins, was found to have an excessive lead content. The whole consignment, the produce of Hong Kong was destroyed.

Arsenic in excess of the permitted amount, was found in a sample of canned bean curd, also the produce of Hong Kong. This consignment, consisting of 4 cases (48 × 1-lb cans) is at present awaiting re-exportation.

Six samples of canned fish (salmon and tuna) of Pacific Ocean origin were submitted for the presence of mercury and in all cases the amounts found were considerably below the acceptable limit.

PRESERVATIVES IN FOOD REGULATIONS 1962

During the course of the year various foodstuffs were submitted to the City Analyst for analysis in connection with the above regulations. These included various Chinese foodstuffs from China, Singapore and Hong Kong, dehydrated apple from Italy, cake mixes from the U.S.A., barbecue spice from the U.S.A., artichoke hearts from Italy, bottled mixed vegetables in wine from Italy.

53 samples were taken and the following table gives details of infringements found.

Country of Origin	Vessel and date of Importation	Consignment	Infringement	Action Taken
Republic of China	"*Willem Koerts*" 4.5.70	100 cases Soy Sauce (24×26 fl oz.)	160 ppm.. Sodium Benzoate	Destroyed
Hong Kong	"*Calchas*" 11.5.70	2 cases Bean Soy Sauce	120 p.p.m. Benzoic Acid	Destroyed
		1 case Lotus Sauce (24×26 fl oz.)	360 p.p.m. Benzoic Acid	Destroyed
Hong Kong	"*Telemachos*" 12.6.70	22 cases Soy Sauce (24×26 fl oz.	80 p.p.m. Benzoic Acid	Destroyed

COLOURING MATTER IN FOOD REGULATIONS 1966/70

35 samples of foodstuffs were submitted to the City Analyst for analysis in connection with the above regulations.

These consisted of a variety of foodstuffs including chilli powder from U.S.A., curry powder from India, vegetable protein from the U.S.A., instant drink powder from Japan, barbecue spice from the U.S.A., piementos from Spain and Chinese foodstuffs from various countries of the Far East.

No infringements of the regulations occurred.

EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

Information concerning positive findings, following examination of imported food, was circulated to other seaports and copies sent to the Department of Health and Social Security and the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Quarterly returns are made to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food giving full details of unsound meat and meat products and also of contraventions of the Official Certificate procedure.

The following table shows the total quantities of unsound foodstuffs either destroyed or utilised under supervision during the year 1970:—

	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Beef, Mutton, Pork and Veal	4	17	—	19
Canned Goods	191	8	1	21
Fruit and Vegetables	157	6	3	18
Cereals	147	3	—	9
General (Lard, Coconut, Butter, etc.)...	346	10	—	23
Total	847	5	3	6

Samples related to imported food

Submitted to Public Health Laboratory Service

Beef, cooked	1
Chopped ham, canned	3
Desiccated Coconut	110
Corned beef, canned	17
Egg, dried whole	15
Egg, frozen whole	31
Egg, dried albumen	57
Egg, frozen albumen...	5

Egg, duck preserved	1
Egg Rolls ("Fun-Wun" rolls)	1
Fruit, dried	6
Lactic albumen	1
Prawns, frozen, cooked	83
Prawns, frozen, uncooked	20
Shrimps, frozen, cooked	15
Shrimps, frozen, uncooked	15
Soup Stock	33
Total	414

Submitted to City Analyst

Artichoke Hearts, canned	1
Apples	1
Apples, dehydrated	2
Bean curd, canned	5
Beans, salted, black	1
Cake Mix	1
Chilli powder	2
Corned Beef, canned	1
Curried Beef, canned	1
Curry Powder	2
Curry, Singapore, canned	1
Curry, clam, canned	1
Desiccated Coconut	442
Dates	17
Dates, sweet	1
Dried fruit	9
Egg, noodles	1
Egg Jam, canned	1
Fish, canned	6
Grapefruit Juice, canned	3
Groundnuts, in shell	28
Groundnuts, kernels	1
Lard	9
Lemons	3
Lemons, preserved	2
Melon cakes, canned	1
Mustard leaves, canned, in brine	1
Pears	1
Pimentoes	2
Plums, preserved	1
Sambal Ikan Bilis, canned	1
Sauces, various oriental types	23
Soft drink powder	1
Spices, barbecue	1
Tinda, canned, in brine	1
Tomatoes, canned, peeled plum	1
Tomato Puree, canned	1
Turnips, bottled	1
Turnips, salted	1
Vegetables, mixed, bottled in weri vinegar	1
Vegetable Protein	1
Venison Soup, canned	1
Total	582

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I desire again to express my appreciation of the valuable assistance received from H.M. Collector of Customs and Staff, Department of Trade and Industry, the Mersey Docks and Harbour Board and their officers, river pilots, and the various shipping companies and agents who have co-operated with the Port Health Authority in the maintainance of Public Health and the prevention of disease in the port. The Consular Bodies have at all times given courteous assistance.

ANDREW B. SEMPLE,
Medical Officer of Health,
Liverpool Port Health Authority.

Printed by ELLIOTT BROS & YEOMAN LTD., SPEKE, LIVERPOOL

LONDON SCHOOL OF HYGIENE ★ AND TROPICAL MEDICINE ★
LIBRARY
16 AUG 1973